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OLDEST AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATION IN THE STATE.

The Maryland Farmer.

A Weekly for the Farmer, Fruit-Grower & Stock-Raiser.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, December 19, 1890.

No. 51.

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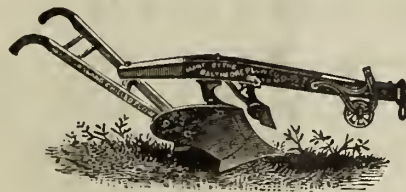
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Costiveness

Becomes chronic, if the proper mode of treatment is not adopted. All harsh and drastic purgatives only tend to weaken the bowels and render cure next to impossible. The safest and most effective aperient is Ayer's Pills, the use of which restores the regular action of the bowels and strengthens the whole digestive canal.

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"I can recommend Ayer's Pills above all others, having long proved their value as a cathartic for myself and family."—J. T. Hess, Leithsville, Pa.

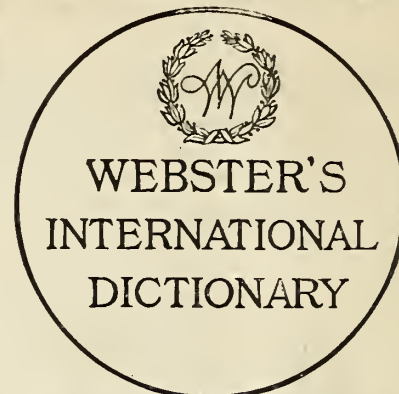
"For eight years I was afflicted with constipation, which at last became so bad that the doctors could do no more for me. Then I began to take Ayer's Pills, and soon the bowels recovered their natural and regular action, so that now I am in excellent health. To all who suffer from costiveness, I can confidently recommend Ayer's Pills."—William H. DeLancett, Dorset, Ont.

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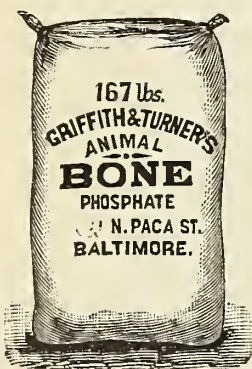
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The Maryland Farmer.

Vol. XXVII.

BALTIMORE, December 19, 1890.

No. 51.

PIGEONS ON THE FARM.

It was in the Spring of 1880, says John W. Canghey, in *American Agriculturist*, that a large farmer was induced by the latter to breed common pigeons for profit. Accordingly, six pairs of mated white and blue pigeons were sent from the city to the farm, and a place boarded off for their accommodation above a part of the hay-mow. The space was about twenty by sixteen feet, with a door for the entrance, and a ladder extending from the upper beams of the barn. In the center of this room a square was partitioned off by railings. In this inclosure were spread sharp, coarse sand and gravel, the railing about the inclosure being necessary to prevent the pigeons from scattering the sand. A box in one corner of this inclosure was kept filled with egg-shells, broken mortar and clay in lumps. In another box, at the opposite side, a piece of rock salt was kept, all these things being necessary to keep the pigeons in health. The nest-boxes in which to rear the young pigeons were made of low, shallow soap-boxes. A box ten by twelve inches square and three inches deep serves the purpose. Some of these boxes were nailed a few feet above the floor, some higher up, and quite a number were put on the floor. Any place will suit a common pigeon. All being ready the six pairs of birds were set at liberty in the coop. The light was admitted by a small window at the extreme end of the barn. In the course of a week after the

cons were liberated in their new quarters, two pairs had built nests, a little hay for that purpose having been provided. The following week these had laid two eggs each, and the other four pairs were building their nests. Thus two pairs were on eggs and four others were laying and ready to sit. The following week all were at work. Pigeons lay two eggs for each clutch. It takes eighteen days to hatch them; three to five weeks before they lay again. Usually a new setting of eggs may be expected three weeks after the first hatch. It takes the young ones five weeks to begin feeding themselves, but the male pigeons usually look after them until they are able to attend to their own wants. The six pairs hatched their young and all did well. Pigeons feed their young by regurgitating a warm milky fluid into the bills of the young pigeons, taking the beak of the latter in their own

and pumping them full. After ten days, this milky food changes to a more solid grain and water. Upon this food the young ones thrive rapidly, and by the third week they are strapping, broad-backed birds.

The first twelve months the six pairs each hatched and reared fully eleven pairs of young, or sixty-six pairs in all. These sold for \$26.40, or forty cents a pair, delivered in the city. It cost just \$7.65 to feed and keep them. The profit is plainly visible. Who says pigeons are not worth keeping? This old farmer was very bitter against pigeons of all kinds, until convinced to the contrary. The next season he kept one hundred pairs of breeders and his success was equal to the first season; but the first coop had to be enlarged. He tells me now that his pigeons keep himself and his wife in shoes and clothes, and leave something over.



Farmers generally have entertained a rather unwarrantable prejudice against pigeons and have given no attention to their rearing. Sometimes the boys have smuggled in a few pigeons, of fancy breeds, but rather as pets than with any idea to profit, and usually meeting with considerable opposition from the good farmer and his wife. The above experience would indicate that after all there may be considerable profit in pigeon raising, and this experiment is well worth trying. It don't cost much to start it, and the birds practically cost nothing for keep, picking up their living from the waste

products of the farm, and cause but little trouble.

Now is a good time of the year to begin the improvement of the poultry yard and such improvement is within the means of every farmer, says the *Massachusetts Ploughman*. To breed year after year from the same stock is sure to end in a race of enervated birds which Hawthorne has so graphically pictured in the House of the Seven Gables. No sensible man wants such stock or can afford to keep them. But, it may be said, many farmers have not the means at hand to buy thorough-bred poultry at the high prices which the fanciers demand, and must be content to make the best of what they have. Precisely, but how will you make the best of it? No; your best way is to thin out every male of your flock and also hens and pullets, retaining the best ones, and buy new cocks in sufficient numbers to allow one cock to 12 or 15 hens.

THE MARYLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL,
HORTICULTURAL AND STOCK RAISING INTERESTS.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 1890.

THE FRUITS OF CHINA.—The apples of China are dry and insipid; the plums, quinces and apricots afford better varieties, and two pears, the White and Strawberry, are said to be equal to any western varieties. The fruit of the south is the orange, the most delicious species being the chu shakin or mandarin orange. The olives are inferior; dates were formerly abundant, but are now but little cultivated. Four of the indigenous fruits are the whampe (cookia) a grape in size, a gooseberry in taste; the loquat, or pedo (*eriobotrya*), a kind of medlar; and the lichi, a strawberry in size and shape, the tough red skin enclosing a sweet, watery pulp of a whitish color surrounding a hard seed. The pomegranate is cultivated chiefly for its flowers; the gnava and the rose apple are grown to make jellies; bread-fruit, almonds, mangoes, bananas, the persimmon and the carambola, or gooseberry-tree, are also cultivated. A pleasant sweet-meat like cranberry is made from the seeds of the arbutus (*myrica*). The citron is valued more for its fragrance than its taste, and the thick rind is cut into strips while growing, each strip becoming a roundish end like a finger, whence the name Fun shao, or Buddha hand. Grapes are abundant and cheap, and in northern China are kept through the winter by carefully regulating the temperature of the fruit; a system akin to our "cold storage," which is practically new with us. China is a vast vegetable garden, and almost every variety of edible vegetable production is in use on Chinese tables. Rice is the staple, and two crops are commonly gathered, after which, in some provinces and near the cities where land is valuable, a winter crop of sweet potatoes, cabbages, or turnips is raised upon the rice plots.

EDITORIAL.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

The MARYLAND FARMER extends to all its friends a hearty Christmas greeting. May the anniversary of the day which brought peace and good will on earth to man, find a happy celebration in every farmers' household all over this broad land.

There are not lacking signs that this Christmas should be an unusually merry one for the tillers of the soil. It is believed that the depression which has brooded so long over agricultural communities has seen its darkest days. Already light is breaking upon the farmers' horizon, a harbinger, we hope, of better times.

THIRD PARTY SCHEMERS.

The article on our Alliance Page from the *Boston Globe* calls attention to the dangers to which the Alliance is exposed, and while its conclusions may not be true, the farmer will do well to keep away from the schemers of both parties.

Since the Ocala Convention, the air has been full of rumors concerning political intrigues that have been set on foot to control the Alliance vote. The scheme for a third party, which many of the delegates favored, was fostered by politicians who hope to use the Alliance to make themselves prominent. It is even hinted that well-known party-leaders, both democratic and republican, are interesting themselves, either to capture the Alliance as a whole, or to use it to split the ranks of the opposing party.

It is said that the northwestern delegates who were republicans to a man, while admitting that the sub-treasury bill would prove ruinous to the farmers, voted for it, seeing that there was a difference of opinion on that matter in the South, and hoping thereby to foment discord, and split the solid South.

However much or little of truth there may be in these rumors, it is pretty clear that the Alliance needs careful guidance at this time. The farmers would better let the third party project severely alone, if they hope to gather any substantial fruits from their recent victories. All the legitimate ends which the farmer can hope to attain will best be gained by work within the ranks of the old parties. The Alliance has as yet developed no issues upon which a third party could make a winning fight, and the only result would be that the practical aims of the order would be swallowed up in political chicane and intrigue.

Let the impracticable dreamers, windy demagogues, and political tricksters, who are so anxious to lead the farmers up out of Egypt, take a back seat, and let good hard common sense come to the front. If the farmers see to it that the men elected to office in their sections, whether democrats or republicans, are sound upon the questions of tariff, trusts, and transportation, they will be likely to accomplish practical results, and make the Alliance feared and respected.

THE CONGER LARD BILL.

The Conger lard bill is attracting considerable attention. Nearly half of our lard is counterfeit, made up of cotton-seed

oil, beef sterine, and other substances. This adulteration has worked against our lard in foreign countries and caused its exclusion. The Conger bill proposes to put a small tax on this adulterated lard, and further provides that it shall be branded just what it is. It proposes to do for lard just what the oleo bill did for butter. The bill is meeting with much opposition from the southern farmer, who fear that it will cut off a market for their cotton seed oil. The Alliance in a memorial to Congress states: "The bill proposes to place taxes on the manufacture of compound lard and prohibitory restrictions on the sale of the same. A tax on compound lard is a tax on the cottonseed oil raised by the cotton planters of the South. A tax on compound lard is a tax on beef fat, a product of the cattle raisers of the West. The Conger Lard bill taxes cottonseed oil and beef fat in order to enhance the price of hog's lard. It arrays the farmer of the North against the cotton planter of the South and the cattle raiser of the West. It is sectional legislation, and, therefore, the industrial movement declares its open and unceasing hostility to it.

There is an objection to such bills as this, which goes deeper. It is the fact that they tax one set of articles solely for the purpose of benefiting the producers of another set of articles. They are helping out one class at the expense of another. The government has no right to interfere in behalf of private interests.

THE Administration organ charges that National Farmers' Alliance has become a mere adjunct of the Democratic party. If this be so the Republican party are certain to fare even worse in the election next year than they did this. The American farmer with his dander up is not a person to trifle with.—*Centreville Record*.

It was suggested at the meeting of the State Grange that a Grange Insurance company be established in Maryland to be managed by this body. In this line it was stated that such companies have been most successfully operated in the North and West greatly to the advantage of grange members. It is to be hoped the committee appointed may reach statistics and facts enough to assure the Grange safety, in this project as money is made in the insurance business, and the grangers would undoubtedly be mutually benefited to a considerable degree.

The January Century will contain the first installments of the long looked for Tallend papers. They will make a sensation in the literary world.

THE famous old Pinlico course has passed under the control of a new management, the Agricultural Society having leased it to the Pinlico Driving Clubs, a new organization made of some of Baltimore's best known and enterprising turfmen. A great programme has been mapped out for new year, and both trotting and running interests will receive attention.

The State Farmers' Association.

THE date for the annual meeting of this organization is Wednesday, January 13. So far no meeting of the executive committee has been held, looking to preparations for the session, but as soon as any definite action is taken it will be made public through THE MARYLAND FARMER and the press generally.

THE matter of unjust exactions by railroad companies aroused considerable discussion during the session of the State Grange, and resulted in the adoption of the following resolutions:

"Resolved by the Maryland State Grange, because of the arbitrary rules practiced by our railroad companies in freight rates, demurrage and other unfair charges toward the people of the State, it is the sense of this body that a railroad commission should be established in this State to protect its citizens from the onerous and oppressive impositions of these powerful corporations.

"Resolved, that the masters of subordinate granges throughout the State are hereby instructed to present to and urge upon the people of their respective localities the importance of creating such a commission by the next Legislature."

"CORN, CORN, CORN!"

EDITOR MARYLAND FARMER:

Under the above head, I notice going the rounds of the press an article, which the *Germantown Telegraph* gets the credit for, in which the writer says he is yet to learn, that corn will make eggs. In reply to it, I will say that I doubt if the same number of square miles in the world can be found that sends more eggs, chickens, ducks and geese to market than the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and the eggs always bringing a higher price in the Baltimore market than in any other, and as for the condition of the chickens, ducks and geese, a visit at any time during the season to the numerous steamboats arriving in Baltimore daily from the Eastern Shore, will convince anyone of their superior quality. I speak from the standpoint of seeing what I say, that "corn, corn, corn," is what composes the food of the hens, chickens and other fowls, of the Eastern Shore farmer. At this time geese can be seen weighing from twenty to thirty pounds.

By reference to the composition of corn, its grand feeding quality is easily explained, notwithstanding the absurd story told by some agricultural stations so called, that cottonseed meal has double the feeding quality of corn. The composition of corn, taken from Pavy on Food, page 162, is nitrogenous matter, 12.50; starch, 67.55; sugar or dextrine, 4.00; fatty matter, 8.80; cellulose, 5.90; mineral matter, 1.25.

It will be observed that it differs from the other cereals in having a larger percentage of fat. This explains why meal will not keep as well as flour made from other cereals owing to the tendency of the fat absorbing oxygen and becoming rancid, hence should be fed fresh, ground. This fat, like the fat of milk, assimilates rapidly in the system of man, beast and fowl, and entirely different from the indigestible fat of cotton seed, rank and acrid in its normal condition, although by some chemical action it is deprived of its rank-nature and sold as genuine olive oil. I have never seen any fit for the human stomach. The only use it is fit for is to make soap; as it is a non-drying oil, it will not do for paint.

From the time the Eastern Shore was settled, now two hundred and more years, corn has been the main food, as grain and fodder for living animals of all kinds, man and

beast. Fifty years and more ago I was in the habit of visiting two schoolmates and when the fine Maryland biscuits and white rolls and bread was on the table, my friends eat three times a day, their common corn bread, much to my surprise. Recently, meeting one of my old friends, I told him of the incident related and he said he was doing the same thing to this day, and he was seventy years old. In the face of the fact that we grow two billions of bushels of corn and feed the most of it to horses, cattle and hogs, and all must admit the good taste of a roast from a corn-fed steer or a slice of old ham from a corn fed hog, professors—so called—tell the farmers corn has too much of carbo hydrate and must have some cottouseed meal with it to form the proper ration.

Another dose weakly recommended in one of our most influential agricultural papers for milch cows is fifty to sixty pounds of fermenting corn stalks, husks, corn, &c., saturated with acetic acid and other organic compounds resulting from the chemical change going on for months in the silos with a temperature of from 120 to 150 degrees, indicating beyond doubt that this chemical change is going on, *i. e.* starch, sugar and albumen—natural food—passing to other compounds that are not natural food and never found in natural food. I am glad to inform your readers that Mr. Evans, president of the Pikesville dairy, informs me that he will not allow a gallon of ensilage fed milk to enter his dairy and those who formerly used it have discarded it entirely and some have torn their silos down and made better use of the lumber.

A. P. SHARP.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 14.

TOMATOES.

W. F. Massey in *Orchard and Garden* gives the following as the results obtained by the North Carolina Experiment Station with tomatoes.

"Our early tomato test was cut short by the intensely hot dry weather the last of June, and the quality of the various sorts was better shown by a set of later grown plants. The first set were treated just as we would have done had we been working for an early crop for market. Early Ruby gave the first ripe fruit, but was overtaken and passed in a few days by the Dwarf Champion. Tate's Extra Early was about as early, but is too inferior in quality, being lacking in solidity. Mikado was the earliest large tomato, but its irregular form will condemn it for market. This is a promising sort for careful selection and improvement. If it could be gotten to grow uniformly smooth it would be a grand market sort, because of its productiveness and fine quality of the fruit. Mayflower is nearly as early and smoother, but not so productive. Of the newer sorts there seems to be a decided advance over older sorts. These were Atlantic Prize, Brandywine and Table Queen. The first two come from Messrs. Johnson & Sokes, Philadelphia, and the last from Henderson & Co. Atlantic Prize is very similar in color (dark purplish red) and form to Table Queen, but with us is earlier and smaller. Both are of fine quality, very solid and without hard core. While not quite perhaps as early as some others, we think Atlantic Prize will make a good sort for the early market. Brandywine is what we would call a perfected Trophy. For those who prefer a scarlet tomato it seems very near perfection, being large, smooth and solid and

ripening to the stem without a crack. For general family use Table Queen and Brandywine seem very near perfect. Ignatum is also fine, but less productive and one test will not do it full justice. Lorillard is one of the most productive and smooth sorts tried. Its most notable characteristic seems to be its capacity to resist unfavorable weather and to keep on bearing all summer. Very promising as a market sort. Some of the older sorts seem to be deteriorating and the Acme, Gen. Grant, and Canada Victor are not the same sorts they were. For canning purposes the Queen and Optimus seem to be peculiarly adapted, from their uniform smoothness, uniform medium size and bright color. Of yellow sorts the Shah would be superb if it had not in a worse degree the fault which condemns Mikado, a very irregular shape. The best large smooth yellows are Golden Queen or Sunrise (both the same) and Golden Rod. Of small sorts for preserving the Green Gage is probably best. I would also speak a good word for the peculiar Peach tomato. With us it is wonderfully productive and withstands the changes of weather almost as well as the little plum and pear shaped sorts. It is the sweetest of all tomatoes and preserving into what the ladies call tomato "figs" is excellent. While worthless from its soft character for market, it is well worth a place in the home garden.

The Cornell University Experiment Station summarizes as follows the results of its Tomato experiments:

1. The tomato plant is quickly susceptible to careful selection.
2. As elsewhere in the vegetable kingdom, the character of the plant as a whole appears to have more hereditary influence than the character of the individual fruit.
3. Very heavy manuring does not lessen productiveness.
4. Neither nitrate of soda nor muriate of potash alone are profitable tomato manures upon thin soil.
5. Very early setting of stocky plants in the field, even in dark and raw weather, augmented earliness and productiveness this season.
6. Seedlings gave far better results than cuttings.
7. Trimming the plants lightly late in summer gave a greatly increased yield.
8. A double or monstrous flower upon a young plant is no indication that succeeding flowers upon the same plant will be double, and produce irregular fruits. But varieties which habitually bear double flowers are also the ones which habitually bear irregular fruits.
9. Cool and dark weather in early fall, and early fall frosts, are the leading drawbacks to profitable tomato culture in the North. To avoid these dangers as much as possible, plants must be started early and forced rapidly.
10. The essential general points in profitable tomato culture are these: Careful selection and breeding; early sowing; frequent or, at least, occasional transplanting to obtain stocky plants; rich soil, well prepared and well tilled.
11. There is evidence that varieties of tomatoes run out, even under good culture.
12. The best market tomatoes appear from our tests to be Ignatum, Favorite, Bay State, Atlantic and perhaps Ruby among the red varieties; Beauty, Mikado, and possibly Potato Leaf among the pink or purple varieties; Golden Queen among the yellow sorts.
13. Among the novelties, Ruby and Chemin Market are most promising.

Alliance Page.

While this journal is not an official organ, of the Farmers' Alliance, it is in entire sympathy with that movement and heartily believes in a thorough and systematic organization among farmers to protect their interests. In this column, Alliance news will be presented, and matters akin to that movement discussed. Correspondence is cordially invited.

The Alliance officers, in this state and their addresses are:
 President, Hugh Mitchell, Port Tobacco.
 Secretary, T. Canfield Jenkins, Pomonkey.
 State Lecturer, . . R. D. Bradley, Preston.

Profoundly impressed that we, the Farmers Alliance, united by the strong and faithful ties of financial and home interests should set forth our declaration of intentions, we therefore resolve:

1. To labor for the education of the agricultural classes in the science of economical government in a strictly non-partisan spirit.
2. To endorse the motto, "In things essential, unity; and in all things, charity."
3. To develop a better state, mentally, morally, socially, and financially.
4. To create a better understanding for sustaining civil officers in maintaining law and order.
5. To constantly strive to secure entire harmony and good will among all mankind, and brotherly love among ourselves.
6. To suppress personal, local, sectional and national prejudices, all unhealthful rivalry and all selfish ambition.
7. The brightest jewels which it garners are the tears of widows and orphans, and its imperative commands are to visit the homes where lacerated hearts are bleeding; to assuage the sufferings of a brother or sister; bury the dead; care for the widows and educate the orphans; to exercise charity toward offenders; to construe words and deeds in their most favorable light, granting honesty of purpose and good intentions to others; and to protect the principles of the Alliance unto death. Its laws are reason and equity, its cardinal doctrines inspire purity of thought and life, its intentions are "peace on earth and good will toward men."—*From the Constitution of the Maryland State Alliance.*

THE "ALLIANCE" IN POLITICS.

The following from the *Boston Weekly Globe* is interesting reading:

When the Farmers' Alliance was first organized, and indeed until very recently. It was declared, and doubtless thought by the members, that it would take no part, as a body, in politics. It was but a few months ago that a leading Western paper, favorable to the movement, congratulated the readers upon the fact that whatever might be the subjects with which the Alliance would concern itself, politics, at any rate, were to be excluded from the scope of its activity. But, alas! the open doings at Ocala, still more the vague and mysterious rumors of intrigues carrying on at that hitherto obscure town, show that the Alliance, if not actually captured, has at least been undermined by politicians. A great part of the delegates there assembled, as our readers are aware, have declared themselves in favor of the new party which it is proposed to organize at Cincinnati next February. But it seems likely that the two great parties already existing in this country, or one of them, will

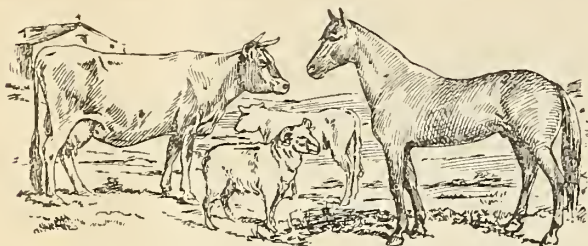
have swallowed the Alliance before the new party gets fairly under way.

In some quarters Mr. Blaine, whose love of intrigue amounts to a real passion, is credited with a scheme for appropriating the Alliance in his own interest. It will be remembered that one Rittenhouse, private secretary to the president of the Alliance, and sometimes described merely as "stenographer," figured conspicuously in a certain quarrel between two factions in the association itself. Mr. Rittenhouse, it appears, put a charge of treachery in circulation, alleging that the election of Governor Gordon as a United States Senator from Georgia was brought about by members of the Alliance who betrayed the organization for a reward. The matter was referred to a committee, by which a vague report of a "white-washing" character was returned. Now, another and graver accusation is brought against this Rittenhouse, namely, that he has been in close consultation with Mr. Blaine, presumably for political purposes. An agriculturist, who is sojourning in Washington, engaged in raising a crop the nature of which does not transpire, tracked Rittenhouse, after dark, from his house to that occupied by Mr. Blaine. The agriculturist then hid in the shrubbery, saw Mr. Rittenhouse enter, and waited till he reappeared, which was not for at least one hour and a half. Here is clear evidence of a plot!

According to other advices the Republicans have emissaries at Ocala with secret instructions to foment discord, so that the whole thing may come to naught; whereas the Democrats are supposed to fly higher and to aim at nothing less than securing the association in its entirety. In support of the latter theory it is pointed out that between the Alliance and the Democrats there is a powerful bond: that of opposition to the McKinley law and a demand for free raw materials,—the only sound political principal which the Alliance has, the only one not demagogic and ridiculous; and it is reasoned that the logic of events, therefore, requires that the Alliance, as a political body, should become absorbed in the Democratic party—a consummation not to be prevented by nocturnal interviews between Mr. Blaine and the mysterious Rittenhouse.

THE object of farmers' organizations is not to break up existing parties, but if parties or their candidates forget or ignore the farmer and his interests they must not complain if at election the farmer, when casting his vote, does likewise by them. For many years past the farmer has humbly accepted such scraps and crumbs from the legislative tables as it has pleased those who have usurped his place there to throw him; but through the teachings of the Grange and kindred organizations in the past few years; he has begun to do a little thinking for himself and now proposes to occupy a seat at the table and take a hand in serving out the laws of the land. So make way, ye professional gentlemen, for a seat for the sunburned farmer at the table and well up toward the head, too. If you oblige him to force his way there he may roughly bruise your elbows or tread upon your toes. He may not get there this year because he is, as a class, rather slow and conservative, but he is going to get there just the same.—*Ex.*

Stock Raisers' Column.



This column will be devoted to the interests of breeders and stock raisers, and especial attention will be paid to matters pertaining to the breeding and development of light harness and trotting horses. Correspondence is invited.

MR. WILLIAMS owner of the famous stallion Allerton has offered Robert Bonner \$10,000 for one year's use of Sunol to raise a colt from. Mr. Bonner has declined the offer in a characteristic letter in which he compliments Mr. Williams on his pluck.

LOVERS of horse-flesh in Caroline county have recently had a track laid off near Denton, and next season promises an awakening of the spirit of equine speed which has slumbered in that county since the death of the noted trotter "George," owned by T. Fred Garey, and the abandonment of the track on the farm of the late Senator Thomas F. Garey. J. Dukes Downes, of Denton, has bought F. G. Slemmer's 8-months-old Happy Russell colt, "Choptank," for \$150. "Choptank" will doubtless develop great speed as he is of fine form and belongs to a family of great trotters. Col. L. H. Gadd also recently purchased a colt of the same stock. These with other promising young horses, are to be trained next year on the new track.

The *Horse Breeder* in its issue contains a letter from Mr. Carlos de Garmendia, proprietor of Tuscarora Farm, Maryland, in which he records a recent purchase as follows: "I have sold to Mr. John B. Clarke, Manchester, N. H., a fine bay yearling colt by Sea King, son of Lord Russell and Fairy Belle, full sister to Vikino, 2.19½; dam Compromiso, by Belvidere, (he by Belmont, out of Tennessee, by Pilot Jr.) 2d dam Goshen Maid 2.37, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian. This is one of the finest colts I ever bred. He is to go into the stud in New Hampshire." Commenting upon the sale the *Horse Breeder* says: We believe that Mr. Garmendia has in Sea King a horse destined to take very high rank as a sire of trotters. Combining as he does the great brood mare strains, Belle, Miss Russell and Waterwitch, how can it be otherwise?

"ICONOCLAST" brings out many truths in his articles in the *Kentucky Stock Farm*. Here is one of his latest utterances: "I may properly state, in addition to what I have said, that great assistance to trotting strains have all along the line of descent flowed in from pacing sources. The connection between the two gaits is as mysterious as it is intimate. Unquestionably some of our greatest trotters and producers of trotters derive some of their best qualities from

pacing crosses. Mand S., the fastest trotter by the records, is a great-granddaughter of a pacing horse and her sire has produced pacing horses and others that have a strong pacing tendency. Jay-eye-see, the next fastest, was a great-grandson of the same horse and his sire has also produced pacers. Nelson, the fastest trotting stallion, is a great-grandson of a celebrated pacing mare and is a pretty fair pacer himself. Sunol's sire has a pacing cross through his Clay blood. Stamboul, the second fastest stallion, has Pilot blood, Clay blood and Hambletonian blood, all of which have more or less of a pacing tendency. Axtell has several crosses to pacing blood. Nancy Hanks, the greatest racing four year old mare, has a strong pacing cross through the sire of Old Sophy's dam, Parker's Brown Pilot. Allerton, the greatest of four year old stallions, has several pacing crosses in his pedigree, and so has Alabaster, the next best four year old stallion of the year.

DAUGHTERS of Rysdyk's Hambletonian have produced seventy-two trotters that are standard by performance, and ten new ones came this year. Seven others are from mares by Volunteer, one of Hambletonian's oldest colts; and the daughters of Volunteer are now credited with twenty six 2.30 representatives. Eight of the new ones to beat 2.30 in 1890 are out of mares by George Wilkes, their total number being now twenty-nine. Going into the second generation of Hambletonian's we find that Almont's daughters have produced eleven new ones, and Belmont's are credited with nine, showing how potent is the blood of Alexander's Abdallah, the sire of both these horses.

John Dryden, minister of Agriculture of Ontario, in a paper read before the Shropshire Association at Chicago, says:

Shropshire sheep are descended from a hardy variety found in Shropshire and adjacent counties in England for the past two or three centuries, formerly known as the "Gray-faced sheep." According to the best authorities now living, they have not been brought to their present state of perfected development by the crossing of other breeds, but by judicious selection from the best of its own species. They were first exhibited as a distinct variety at the Royal Show at Gloucester, in 1853, since which time they have attracted attention from all quarters of the globe, and are still increasing in popularity.

As seen in the flocks to-day, they have deep, symmetrical bodies placed on short legs, a genteel appearance, well-covered heads, and every part of the body covered with a uniform quality of wool of the most valuable kind. These sheep are adapted not merely for one particular locality, but do equally well in almost every country in Europe and America. In a marked degree they combine all the characteristics which are essential in producing the very best returns in both wool and mutton. They are especially adapted for a country where close confinement is not desirable. The open air is their delight. They are not easily affected by storms, and instead of standing with arched backs shivering from its effects, they are at once ready to "get up and put on a hustle." They are most prolific; 150 per cent. is a common return in lambs, and not infrequently 200 is reached. The writer knows of an instance near his home where a flock of ten ewes owned by one man produced 23 lambs, which when sold in the autumn realized \$33 for each dam.

DAIRY BREEDS.

Professor Brown of Guelph, Ontario, publishes the following as the results of his experiments with the different dairy breeders. The Holsteins are not on his list, but with dairy-men generally, they are becoming great favorites on account of their milking qualities. The Shorthorn, with an average weight of 1,570 pounds, yielded \$19 worth of milk, from which the cream would have amounted to only \$11. The cream made butter to the value of \$22, or \$30 worth of cheese could have been made from the milk. This breed averaged to give milk 170 days in the season.

The Shorthorn grades proved better, as they gave milk 220 days in the season, to the value of \$30, but the cream

200 days. The value of the milk was \$21; of cream \$11.25, but they would make \$19 worth of butter or \$45 worth of cheese.

Ayrshires weighed 1,000 pounds each, gave milk 210 days, worth \$39. The cream was worth \$21, and it would make \$35 worth of butter, while the cheese from the milk would be worth \$58.

Ayrshire grades weighed 1,030 pounds and gave milk 220 days, but the value of the milk was only \$33, and of the cream only \$11. Amount of butter or cheese not tested.

The Jerseys weighed 740 per head; gave milk 200 days, which is valued at \$19, while the cream on it would be worth \$57, and according to a few tests made in which 100 pounds



was worth only \$10, and would make \$18 worth of butter, but the milk yielded \$42 worth of cheese. These animals average to weigh 1,450 pounds each.

Herefords weighing 1,310 pounds each gave milk for 180 days to the value of \$17, but the cream would have sold for only \$5.25, and the butter would have been worth only \$11, while there was \$26 worth of cheese.

Here also grades proved more profitable though smaller. They averaged to weigh 1,100 pounds; gave milk for 200 days, to the value of \$27, which had only \$11.50 worth of cream in it. The butter product was worth \$18, and the cheese \$26.

Devons on an average weight of 1,050 pounds gave milk

of cream would make 44 pounds of butter, the butter, would amount to \$88 without any allowance for extra quality of butter.

Here we find that the Ayrshire gave the greatest value in milk and cheese, the grade Shorthorns next. The milk from the Ayrshire was worth twice as much as that from the Jerseys, counting the same price per quart, while the cream from the Jerseys was worth almost three times as much as that from the Ayrshire and the butter two and one half times as much. The butter from the Jerseys was worth four times as much as that from the Shorthorns, and eight times as much as that from the Herefords. The amount of food eaten was not kept account of.

Home Reading.

CHRISTMAS.

What shall we say at Christmas
Only the kindest word
Sounding like fairy winspers
Or like the songs of birds.
Let every voice resounding
Be with sweet tones abounding,
Love the whole earth surrounding!

What shall we do at Christmas?
Surely all friendly things,
Secretly, lovingly, softly
As touch of angels' wings.
Hearts like a crystal chalice.
Shall pour into cot and palace
Love without thought of malice.

What shall we sing at Christmas?
Songs rising high and clear,
Telling the Christ-child's story
Loudly that all may hear.
How, in a far off nation,
Pure above all temptation,
Was born the world's Salvation!

What shall we give at Christmas?
Treasures of heart and soul,
Sympathy, faith and patience,
All under love's control;
So shall the Christmas flowers
Blossom through memory's hours,
Blessed by Divinest powers.

Eleanor W. F. Bates, in Home Magazine.

* *

Though fields and meadows brown and bare
The ermined garb of winter wear,
And breezes blowing sharp and cold
Proclaim the year is growing old,
The embers glow upon the hearth,
Within the house is cheerful mirth;
And through the world the joy bells chime
At Christmas time!

At Christmas time, old wrongs forgot,
Past feuds and fears remembered not,
We meet and greet the faithful friends
Who for life's losses make amends,
All evil passions we subdue;
All kindly graces we renew;
Peace and good-will are in their prime
At Christmas time!

Selected.

SAVED BY KINDNESS.

We will call him Jim, for I do not remember his name. He had lost all respectability, and was a common gutter drunkard. His family had disowned him, and would not recognize him when they met him. Occasionally he would get a job at the stables where Dr. Davis kept his horse. One morning the Dr.

laid his hand on Jim's shoulder and said: "Jim, I wish you would give up the drink."

There was something very like a quiver of the man's lips as he answered:

"If I thought you cared I would; but there is a great gulf between you and me"

"Have I made any gulf, Jim? Think a moment before you answer."

"No, you haven't."

"If you had been a millionaire, could I have treated you more like a gentleman?"

"No, you couldn't."

"I do care, Jim."

"Say it again, won't you?"

"I do care, Jim," with a tender emphasis on the "Jim."

"Dr. Davis, I'll never touch another drop of liquor as long as I live. Here's my hand on it."

This was fifteen years ago; and "Jim" is to-day the respectable and respected Mr.—. Saved by a kind word! Will you make an effort this week to win some one by kindness?—*Christian Advocate.*

TOLL FOR THE BRAVE.

Rarely now does one hear the passing bell that used always to announce the entrance of a soul into the larger life. The young people of today have never heard it, and wondered why at such times the very tones of the bell were sad, though on other days, as when the Fourth of July roused it, its notes seemed jubilant. There was first the stroke announcing that it was for death, then a certain number indicating whether it was for a man or woman, and then the minute tolling for the age of the person whose soul has just flitted from the body. We can still recall the hush in the house when the passing bell struck—a hush unbroken till the last tone had died away. Sometimes it would be for one long past the threescore years and ten; and to our childish spirit of unrest the time was tediously long, for we might not break the solemn silence. Sometimes it was but a few strokes that told that some child like ourselves had passed away, and a sense of awe came over us that sobered us to quiet.

Last Sunday night the bell would have tolled, had it now been the custom, for a sweet spirit that was released from its prison-house of clay. "Toll for the brave," sings Cowper, thinking of the

warriors who had sunk beneath the sea. But greater was the courage of this spirit that for fourteen long years had fought a brave battle against sickness and suffering, knowing never the joys of exuberant girlhood, shut out from the bright and busy world at a time when most young people are so fleet of foot and blithe of spirit that their feet seem to be shod with wings, and their minds to hardly rest longer in their flight than does a bird of passage. Little of the world did she see save what came through books and letters into her chamber of peace. That chamber was not only a place of suffering. It glowed with the natural sunshine that poured in at the window and with the warmer sunshine of love and affection. Pictures, books, flowers, the gifts of those who loved her, were grouped about the sufferer's couch within ready reach of her hand, her own beautiful face the most attractive object in the group. So long as the hand could hold pencil, or scissors or brush, they were never idle; and many and many a souvenir, or scrap-book, or other little gift, found its way from this room to those who were also suffering. Self was forgotten in remembering the woes of others. Sometimes she may have felt that her sphere of influence was narrow: but said one who knew her well, "It was a benediction to go into her presence, and she was capable of making saints of all who were constantly with her."

Brave to suffer, brave to act whenever her strength allowed, brave to live in the face of excruciating pain, brave to die and leave those whose love turned the bitter chalice of life into a cup of happiness, let the passing bell ring out for her as for the heroes who fight in a wider field. But let it toll softly, for she was young and fair.

A child, walking by his father's side, reaches a slippery and dangerous footpath over a turbulent stream. He stops dismayed afraid to take one forward step. One glance, one word of distress, and all that loving father's strength, if needed, is exerted to carry him safely past the danger. With what trust the boy yields himself to the strong and guiding hand. Alone, he would have fallen. Leaning upon his father's strength, confiding in his tender love, he crosses without a fear.



WOMAN'S CORNER.

△ MRS. MARY L. GADDESS, EDITRESS.

This department of THE FARMER will be made of special worth to the ladies of the farmer's household. Fashions in dress, latest ideas of ornamentation, flowers, etiquette, and all subjects in which they may be interested will be fully discussed and in a chatty manner. Mrs. GADDESS, the editress, a well-known writer of this city, cordially invites correspondence on matters of interest in this column and will answer any questions with pleasure.

Fur is not only a luxurious trimming but to delicate people a real blessing. Cuffs are worn closely about the wrist of dresses and keep the pulse warm, down the fronts of coats to protect the chest. Solid comfort, seems to be the lesson of the season. The light weight woolen goods often trimmed thus is by far the most sensible fashion women could adopt for cold weather. The past seasons they have worn silk, and velvet, with nothing to cover arms and chest, but a fancy cape, thus sowing the seeds of consumption and bronchial troubles they later suffered from, and blamed the variable climate for it all.

In doors, or not, be comfortable in your own way this winter. Scarlet knit vests and drawers come in stuff as soft as zephyr wool, and elastic enough to be serviceable, and not beyond the reach of moderate purses.

It is indeed something to be grateful for that such nice, warm and elegant, materials are yet obtainable at reasonable rates, but it certainly is advisable in view of the general talk on the "Tariff" to buy as soon as possible, I was told in one of our largest and best dry goods houses this week, that they were selling goods for less than they could replace them on the counters again from New York importers, and after the New Year they would be compelled to advance; and as the house is synonymous with probity, I give you this as a "pointer," as it is said. Do look at the beautiful figured materials that are again in fashion before purchasing other goods, they come in cashmeres and flannels for street wear, and delains and alpacas for home use. Don't select figures too pronounced, some of the delicate grounds with bunches of flowers and buds in soft shades are elegant and deservedly popular; of course they are made with simple straight effects, over dress would ruin the costume.

But, while the temptation is almost irresistible to talk about these things we must not neglect the "inner man." Every one wants new recipes, and no matter how many good and tried ones they have on hand, will experiment with new. Macaroons are splendid and worth trying. Take a half pound of blanched almonds, pound to a smooth paste, adding now and then a little rose water to keep soft; allow one teaspoonful of the essence of bitter almonds, one half-pound sifted loaf sugar, and whites of three eggs beaten very light. Stir eggs and sugar together, and gradually whip into it the

almond paste; line a pan with buttered paper, and drop mixture far enough apart not to run together while baking. Sift powdered sugar thickly upon each, and bake a light brown. We all know how delicious they are, but many fine cooks imagine they are too difficult to make at home, whereas the only art is to make the paste of almonds smooth and not too thick. If they are not light, 'tis because you have not beaten the eggs long enough.

Here is a good fruit cake receipt. I have kept cake made after this receipt six months. Stir one cup butter with one of brown sugar, add a cup of molasses, four eggs, one cup of sweet milk, one and one-half teaspoonfuls of cream tartar, one small teaspoonful soda, two pounds stoned raisins, one nutmeg and a little brandy. Add the raisins the last thing after dusting them with flour—this to prevent their settling to the bottom of the baking pan.

In Christmas decorations everywhere the holly stands supreme, not only for its brilliant berries, and dark glossy foliage, but it seems to flourish everywhere, but cedar, fir, pine, hemlock, indeed most all evergreens are used, and if a few small trees are potted and set in the windows among your growing plants—the pine with its cones, and the holly with its crimson—you have no idea what a charming effect you will obtain. If you have a fireplace in the house not used festoon about it ropes of evergreen, line it with moss from the woods, and any creeping vines yet obtainable, and if you are so fortunate as to have found time to get autumn leaves, cat-tails, sumac, golden rod or the like to dry, earlier in the season, with their aid you may make a fairy grotto, while the winter winds whistle out of doors and the snow lies white and pure above the grasses that were so green. It will not take much time and you will be rewarded when you see how your friends admire your handiwork.

Christmas should be made a glad season for the children. I have no patience with this new cry of doing away with Christmas gifts. One by one, year after year, the good old customs are being taken from us, and if we do not pause to think, every sacred memory will be lost.

Cling to Christmas! Put up your stockings. And if you are not able to give anything grand, every one who loves you will know all about that. Make some trifle, if it only be a cross of evergreen, or a basket of moss with some berries through it.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas, I close.

MRS. MARY L. GADDESS.

Turkey Raising.

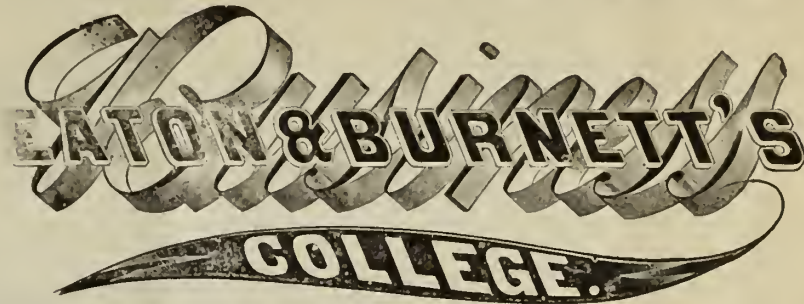
A correspondent of an exchange at Watertown, N. Y., writes under date of Dec. 7:

The annual harvest of poultry for the New York and Boston markets is about over in this part of the State, and it has been a big one. Thousands of the finest and fattest turkeys in the land have already found their way from Northern New York to the table of people in the larger cities, and many more will get there the coming holidays.

The business of raising the turkey for market is of comparatively recent origin in this region, but it has grown to such an extent that it demands more than a passing notice. This year the money paid the farmers for turkeys alone in St. Lawrence county will amount to over \$100,000, and, if divided pro rata among the inhabitants, would give every man, woman and child over \$150 each. When the number of farmers is taken in to account it will be seen that each would have a snug sum for the poultry raised. A few days before Thanksgiving a freight train of thirty-three cars loaded with dressed turkeys was sent to Boston. This was only one of several shipments, but it is probably the largest quantity sent by one train this season. The prices paid by dealers run from 14 to 19 cents per pound, which is considerably above the prices paid for western turkeys. One firm bought twenty-five tons in one week. Nearly every village in the county now has one or more turkey brokers, who buy on commission for dealers in the large cities.

Farmers in this section have awakened to the fact that there is a great profit in this new business. This year many will receive more for their turkeys than they have had from their dairies. The trouble encountered in turkey raising is not great. The fowls are able to take care of themselves from the day they are hatched until the time comes for fattening, which is about six weeks before the killing. They are not molested to any great extent by the hawk, fox or weasel, and the percentage of loss in raising them is less than on any other domestic fowl.

Those engaged in the business say the turkeys should not be fed during the summer months. If left to forage on the farm until about the 1st of October, and then shut in and fed grain, they take on fat rapidly and are better for the table than any stall fed fowl can ever be. A good farm is not a requisite in turkey raising. Poor land is just as good, provided the fowls have a wide range.

The Live Business Training School.**AND SCHOOL OF
SHORT HAND and TYPEWRITING.**

Endorsed by Prominent Business Men, Merchants, Bankers, Patrons, Graduates and Students. Location, Halls, Class-Rooms, Ventilation, Light and Heating Apparatus Unequalled in Baltimore. Teachers of Acknowledged Ability, Zeal and Perseverance at the Head of Departments of

Practical Penmanship, Business Arithmetic,
Practical Book keeping, Business Correspondence,
Commercial Law, Rapid Calculation, Business
Practice, Practical Grammar, Spelling, Shorthand,
Typewriting and Telegraphing, &c., &c.

EATON & BURNETT,

NORTHEAST COR. BALTIMORE & CHARLES ST.
BALTIMORE, MD.

INTERESTING TO FARMERS.

TO CLEAR YOUR LAND OF
STUMPS AND BOULDERS.

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◀ JUDSON POWDER ▶

Cheaper than the Stump Puller.

Can Be transported and handled with perfect safety. Send for pamphlet and price list to

ATLANTIC DYNAMITE CO.

Orders left with LEWIS D. THOMAS will receive prompt attention.

112 LIGHT STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

PETER H. MORGAN,

Roofs of Houses, Railroad Cars, Decks of Steamboats, Scows, &c. covered at Shortest Notice.

TIN AND SLATE ROOFING,

Old ROOFS repaired at moderate rates.

ALL KINDS OF HYDRAULIC CEMENT WORK DONE.

ROOFING and CEMENT WORK,

STEAM BOILER and PIPE COVERING,

OIL, ACID and WATER TANKS and REFRIGERATOR LINING

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All old and new
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Quality. Warranted
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EATON
GRAPE VINES

also other SMALL FRUITS. New Descriptive Catalogue Free. T. S. HUBBARD CO., FREDONIA, N.Y.

THE SILO.

Surprise is often expressed that farmers who live near to silos that have been in operation for years, and which have proved satisfactory and profitable are still unconvinced that the silo is profitable. There is no reason for surprise. We freely admit that there may be even yet a doubt as to whether roots are not just as profitable as the silo for stock feed. Personally we are convinced that ensilage is profitable, but that is no reason why everybody else should be. Some who have used ensilage do not like it. But our advice to those who are making the dairy a permanent feature is to try it, on a small scale, if they like, but try. We should be glad to know another season that everybody had followed this advice. At all events we need not restate our position in favor of green foods of some kind.

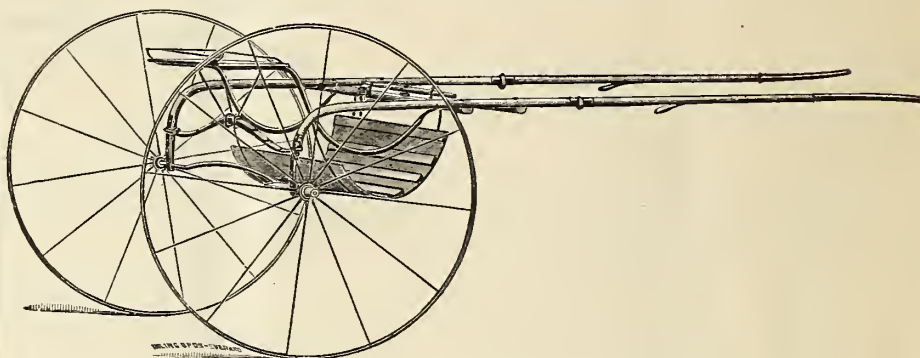
APPLES FOR THE SOUTH.

Garretson's Early is a fine summer apple, and always sells well. Primate can not be excelled for market, bears early, large crops of fine fruit, does not spot or fall from the trees. Sweet Bough is another good market apple. Duchess of Oldenburg is a very fine summer apple and bears when quite young, but it is a very slow grower. This is the only fault I find with it.

The above varieties have been fruited in the South for a number of years; and have given general satisfaction. They are reliable, and free from disease, all early bearers, standing heat and cold well, and make a valuable list of summer varieties.—JAMES PARKER, Pike., Miss.

For nearly twenty years, says a dairy journal of the West, we have counseled the dairy farmers against letting their cows run out in pasture when cold rain storms occur. It is one of the most wasteful things in the world to do. The farmer keeps these cows for the milk they give, yet he will expose them to a beating cold rain storm, when he knows that such a practice will shrink their milk greatly. We will wager that all the cold rain storms that have swept Wisconsin the past three weeks, not one dairyman in ten kept his cows in the stable during the storms. Yet they would have made money if they had done so. The daily milk record at the Fort Atkinson creamery has told its patrons the theory of shrinkage, from this cause, with unerring accuracy, and so will all creameries. Yet still the foolish practice goes on. When will farmers learn how to handle a cow? When will they learn the fact that the giving of milk is a mother-function and that warmth and comfort is essentially necessary to a full and profitable exercise of this function.

WHITMAN'S AMERICAN ROAD CART. PRICE \$20.



We claim to be the Pioneers of the Road Cart Business in this State as we were the first house in the State to receive a car load (100) Carts, and have had more experience and sold more Carts than any house in the State of Maryland.

For 1890 we have contracted with one of the largest Manufacturers in this Country to make a Cart specially for us which we now present to the trade for the first time, having christened it

WHITMAN'S AMERICAN ROAD CART.

It is a Cart made to meet the popular demand: that is, a well made Cart at a very low price, and we say without any fear of being contradicted that it is THE BEST CART FOR THE PRICE EVER OFFERED IN THIS MARKET.

It is not only durable and well made, but also a very easy riding and neatly finished cart.

We use in their construction extra strong wheels, steel axle and tire, thoroughly seasoned selected hickory shafts, *leather trimmed*, and half-Elliptic spring hung directly under seat, and suspended at ends on swinging shackles, making the action of the spring soft and very pleasant.

The seat is suspended on "T" steel seat bars so bent that any one can enter the cart with perfect ease, and is also supported by an iron brace which is clipped to centre of spring and runs diagonally to the steel bars, making a very strong support to seat, and the foot rest which is a protection for the feet, is hung a little below the "T" steel seat bars.

Special prices to the trade.

E. WHITMAN, SONS & CO.,
27 East Pratt Street,
BALTIMORE, MD.

1891.



1891.

Home Grown, Honest, Reliable.

I offer you my Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue for 1891 FREE. Note the immense variety of seed it contains, and that all the best novelties are there. Not much more show about it (you don't plant pictures) but fine engravings from photographs of scores of the choice vegetables I have introduced. Would it not be well to get the seed of these from first hands? To be the oldest firm in the United States making mail and express business a specialty proves **reliability**. Honest and honorable dealing is the only foundation this can rest on. My Catalogue is FREE as usual. A matter on second page of cover will interest my customers. J. J. H. GREGORY & SON, Marblehead, Mass.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

We call especial attention to this list of Nurserymen, Seedsmen, Florists, etc. They all issue good Catalogues and will cheerfully send one free, if you write referring to the Maryland Farmer. We believe every one of them to be reliable.—*Editor Md. Farmer.*

D. H. Patty, Nurseries, Geneva, N. Y.
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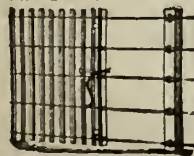
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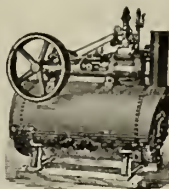
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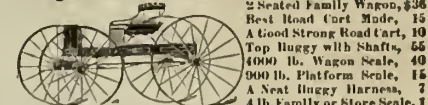
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